

THE ASSAM GAZETTE

অসাধাৰণ EXTRAORDINARY প্ৰাপ্ত কৰ্তৃত্বৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰকাশিত PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY

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GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 16th March, 2024

No. VFV. 38/2024/1.- In pursuance of the Policy for Commercialisation of Poultry Sector in Assam 2024 approved by Hon'ble Cabinet in its meeting dated 1st March, 2024, the Operational Guidelines for the said Policy are hereby notified as Annexed.

1. Introduction

Government of Assam acknowledges the vital contribution of the poultry sector to the socio-economic fabric of the state. This sector is a significant contributor to Assam's economy, playing an essential role in food security, job creation, and improving rural incomes.

To address the challenges impeding and to harness the sector's potential, the Government introduces the Policy for Commercialisation of Poultry Sector in Assam 2024. This initiative is aimed at fostering a supportive environment for investment, encouraging innovation, and advocating for sustainable practices within the sector. It endeavours to resolve the current challenges, improve the efficiency of the value chain, and promote inclusive growth throughout the industry.

The policy provides a strategic approach to boost growth and competitiveness in the poultry sector with specific interventions. These interventions focus on improving access to finance, bolstering infrastructure, raising quality standards, and supporting research and development efforts. Furthermore, it aims to position Assam as a prime location for investments in the poultry sector by taking advantage of its unique geographic location and rich biodiversity.

The policy aims to achieve self-sufficiency in the poultry sector for the state, ensuring Assam's independence in meeting its demand for poultry products.

2. Policy Vision

The vision of the Policy is to establish Assam as a leader in the poultry industry in India, characterized by sustainable growth, technological innovation, and self-sufficiency.

This vision encompasses the development of a robust, efficient, and nationally competitive poultry sector that leverages Assam's unique geographical and climatic advantages, contributing significantly to the state's economic development, food security, and employment generation. Through this policy, Assam aims to not only meet its own demand for poultry products but also become a significant contributor to the national market and explore export opportunities, ensuring prosperity and improved livelihoods for its rural communities.

3. Objectives of the Policy

The objectives of the Policy for Investment Promotion in Poultry Sector in Assam 2024 are as follows:

- Achieve Self-Sufficiency: To ensure Assam becomes self-sufficient in poultry production, meeting the state's demand internally and reducing reliance on external sources for poultry products.
- ▶ Boost Investment: To attract significant private investment into the poultry sector, enhancing its capacity and sustainability.
- ▶ Enhance Production Capacity: To increase the production of poultry and related products, aiming for self-sufficiency and reducing dependence on imports.
- Improve Infrastructure: To develop and upgrade the sector's infrastructure, including feed mills, breeding farms, processing units, and cold storage facilities, to support growth and efficiency.
- Quality and Standards: To improve the quality of poultry products and align them with national and international standards, ensuring food safety and consumer trust.
- ▶ Innovation and Technology Adoption: To promote the adoption of modern technologies and practices in breeding, farming, processing, and waste management to increase productivity and sustainability.
- Market Access and Expansion: To facilitate better access to domestic and international markets for Assam's poultry products through branding, marketing, and logistic support.

Sustainable Practices: To encourage environmentally sustainable and humane farming practices that contribute to biodiversity and ecological balance.

4. Policy Commencement and Duration

The policy will be effective from date of approval of the policy and will be operational for a period of 5 years.

5. Definitions and Eligibility

- New Enterprise: New Enterprise means an enterprise which commences commercial production during the operative period of the policy.
- **Expansion:** Expansion means an existing enterprise implementing expansion an existing project by at least 25% of its existing capacity.
- ▶ Capital Expenditure: Capital expenditure means investment in building, plant & machineries, captive feed plant, and electricity infrastructure directly related to production but does not include investment on land and working capital and other expenditures not directly related to production.
- Working Capital: Working Capital means capital required for running a farm and includes cash credit and/ or any other short-term loan actually utilized as working capital.
- ▶ Commercial Layer Poultry Farm: Commercial Layer Poultry Farm means a farm that is engaged in the activity of producing eggs from layer poultry.
- Poultry Breeding Farm: Poultry Breeding Farm means a farm that is engaged in activity of producing fertilized eggs from parent poultry with integrated facility to hatch fertilized eggs.
- ▶ Poultry: Poultry means chicken and duck.
- Project Cost: Project Cost of a unit includes both capital expenditures and operating expenditure for one cycle of operation including capital expenditures only on site development, buildings, farm animal assets, plant and machineries for setting up of farm units, plant facilities and feed mill, etc. This does not include cost of land, vehicle and other expenditures not directly related to production.

6. Incentives for promotion of private investment in Poultry Sector

6.1. Commercial Layer Farm:

- 6.1.1. Capital Subsidy to the extent of 33% of the total Capital Expenditure will be available for the new commercial layer farming enterprises.
- 6.1.2. For existing layer farms undertaking expansion are also eligible for above benefits.
- 6.1.3. Maximum Capital Subsidy for any single project (new or expansion) shall not exceed Rs. 5 Crores
- 6.1.4. Interest subsidy of 3% on Term loan subjected to a maximum of Rs. 20 lakhs per annum for 5 years.
- 6.1.5. Interest subsidy of 3% on Working Capital loan subjected to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs per annum for 5 years.
- 6.1.6. New commercial layer farms shall be eligible for a power tariff subsidy of Rs. 2 per unit up to a maximum of Rs. 10 Lakhs per annum for 5 years from commencement of commercial production.

6.2. Commercial Broiler/Poultry Breeding Farm:

6.2.1. Capital Subsidy to the extent of 33% of the total Capital Expenditure will be available for the new commercial Broiler/Poultry farms.

- 6.2.2. Interest subsidy of 3% on Term loan subjected to a maximum of Rs. 20 lakhs per annum for 5 years.
- 6.2.3. Interest subsidy of 3% on Working Capital loan subjected to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs per annum for 5 years.
- 6.2.4. New farms shall be eligible for a power tariff subsidy of Rs. 2 per unit up to a maximum of Rs. 10 Lakhs per annum for 5 years from commencement of commercial production.
- 6.3. The total admissible subsidy for any single project shall not exceed Rs. 10 (ten) Crores
- 6.4. Capital Subsidy shall be disbursed in the following pattern:

Units attaining commercial production with 40% capacity utilisation	Units attaining commercial Production with 90% capacity utilisation
Disbursement of 60% of admissible subsidy	Disbursement of rest 40% of admissible subsidy

- 6.5. Provision of land: The Government will also consider provisioning land, subject to availability and feasibility, in Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department's farms or Department's landbank and Government waste/ceiling surplus land for setting up of new Commercial Layers, Commercial Broilers and Poultry Breeding Farm units to facilitate entrepreneurs, considering large areas of land required and consequent high cost of establishing such farms. Such land will be made available under a standard lease arrangement to prospective entrepreneur at the rates fixed by the competent authority. The Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department shall explore the possibility of utilizing the department's vacant land or other vacant Government land for such purpose after making Techno-Economic study of such proposals and ensuring viability of the project.
- 6.6. Additionally, Industrial Development Corporations may provide industrial land to Poultry Farms (both layer and broiler) after careful examination of such proposals.
- 6.7. Incentives for establishment of Poultry Meat Processing Units and stand-alone Feed Production Units: This policy does not cover any incentives for Poultry meat processing units and Feed Production Units. However, such units may avail incentives provided under Assam Industrial & Investment Policy, 2019, its subsequent amendments or other policy notified from time to time by Industries, Commerce & PE Department.

7. Conditions for Sanctioning of Subsidy/Incentives

- 7.1. To qualify for the subsidies/incentives under this policy, layer or poultry farms should have a capacity of at least 50,000 birds.
- 7.2. To qualify for the subsidies/ incentives, the unit should get term loan from a Financial Institution/ Bank recognized by the Reserve Bank of India. In case of units delinked from bank finance, it shall be eligible for the subsidy if applied within one year of actual commencement of production.
- 7.3. Any unit to be an eligible unit under the proposed policy, it must be environmental laws/guidelines compliant.
- 7.4. Units cannot obtain the same subsidy/ incentive under any other scheme/ policy of the Central or State Government.

7.5. To qualify for subsidy, the enterprise must apply within one year of the disbursement of the first instalment of the term loan. The sanction of the loan must be obtained within the policy period.

8. Implementation of Policy

8.1. Appraisal Committee for Evaluation and Examination: At the directorate level, the applications will be thoroughly scrutinized by the Appraisal Committee, the Director of AH&V department will finalize the applications after scrutiny and forward the report to the Project Approval Committee as and when necessary.

#	Members	Role
1	Director, AH&V Department	Chair
2	Senior FA of Directorate	Member
3	Representative from the office of Commissioner, Industries	Member
4	Representative from the Directorate Land Records	Member
5	Addl. Director (HQ), AH&V Department	Convenor

8.2. State Level Committee for Project Approval: The State Level Committee shall be constituted by the following members, any other members that may be required may be notified by the Government from time to time.

#	Members	Role
1	Senior Most Secretary, AH&V Department	Chair
2	Secretary, Department of Finance or its nominee	Member
3	Secretary, DoIC&PE or its nominee	Member
4	Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management, or its nominee	Member
5	Director, AH&V Department	Convenor

Terms of Reference of the Committee are as follows:

1	The Committee shall monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Policy
2	The committee may issue directive / suggestions/ amendment for effective implementation of the policy.
3	The Committee may sit as and when required but at least once in a month.
4	The Chairman may co-opt any members/ expert for any meeting.

8.3. Incentives shall be approved through the issuance of administrative approval/financial sanction, as per the extant rules on delegated financial powers as periodically issued/updated by the Finance Department.

9. Implementing Department

9.1. The responsibility for the successful operation and implementation of the policy will be of the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department by which necessary guidelines will be issued after the promulgation of the policy.

10. Other Conditions

- 10.1. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Government of Assam, will establish a Policy Implementation Unit (PIU) to promote the Poultry Sector in Assam and to aid in the execution of the policy.
- 10.2. Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Government of Assam reserves the right to amend any provision(s) including amendment or withdraw any of the incentives/subsidies as and when necessary for development of poultry sector from time to time under the provision of the Policy.
- 10.3. Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Government of Assam reserves the right to review the matter regarding sanction/ disbursement of subsidies/ incentives to the eligible layer/broiler/poultry unit(s) and in this connection, the State Government's decision shall be final and binding.

ABHIJIT BARUAH,

Secretary to the Government of Assam, A. H. & Veterinary Department.